

Preliminary Assessment

Exxon Service Station #3-2558
936 Route 202 South
Branchburg Twp., Somerset County, New Jersey

In 1967, the above noted block and lot (the site) was conveyed to Humble Oil, which is a predecessor of the ExxonMobil Corporation (ExxonMobil). ExxonMobil's predecessor owned the site and operated a gasoline service station and automobile repair shop at the site since the late 1960s. A plot plan produced by Humble Oil and dated October 31, 1966 depicts an on-site "service center" building and a 1,000 gallon septic tank and an approximately 800 square foot leaching field with a diverter box to the northeast of the building. The plot plan also shows a 550 gallon waste oil tank 10 feet southeast of the service building. Underground tanks, including the waste oil tank, were removed during 1987. No post excavation soil sampling was conducted. A February 15, 1988 letter from ExxonMobil notes that "the majority of the soil stockpiled came from the area around the slop oil tank." During a 1999 inspection by NJDEP, sealed floor drains were discovered in the ExxonMobil service building. ExxonMobil has offered no explanation of where the discharge from these pipes was directed. The above noted 1966 map depicts a deep well on the site which could have acted as a conduit for contaminants. Wells installed by ExxonMobil were initially shallow, but a deeper well (61 feet) installed and sampled only once for chlorinated compounds detected trichloroethene at 96 ppb.

Sampling of local potable wells revealed that TCE was a contaminant in at least five of those wells. The contaminant levels ranged from just over 1 ppb to over 90 ppb. The wells have since been closed or converted to monitor wells and the potable water supplied by water mains. ExxonMobil has failed to address the potential ground water impacts from the above noted areas of concern. Work done at nearby sites has confirmed that overburden is very thin in this area and direct push ground water samples are not feasible. Based on same, it is proposed that ground water monitor wells be installed at the site to determine if an observed release to ground water has occurred from the noted areas of concern which have had known discharges.



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936 Route 202 North
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Lat: +40.5683, Long: -74.6828



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